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Election
S. Bryce
4/24/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : LIN
Application No. : 10/050,565
Filed : January 18, 2002
Title : PROTECTING CAP STRUCTURE FOR THE NEEDLE OF A SYRINGE
Group Art Unit : 3763
Examiner : R. Ghafoorian
Docket No. : BHT/3214-3

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 18, 2003, the following remarks are submitted.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required Applicant to elect one of the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- Species A - illustrated in Figures 1-5; or,
- Species B - illustrated in Figure 6.

Applicant provisionally elects Species A and believes that claims 1-6 are readable on the provisionally elected species.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's requirement for an election of species in this application. It is noted that Figures 1-4 illustrate the construction of the protecting cap structure per se, while Figure 5 illustrates the structure of the connecting member. Figure 6 comprises an illustration showing the structures of Figures 1-4 and Figure 5 combined together when the invention is in use.

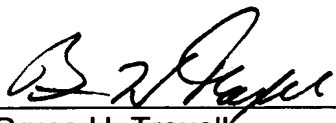
Applicant further submits that claims 1-6 are readable on both species and, therefore, are generic claims.

An early action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 18, 2003

By:


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